THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Michael I. Casher, M.D., clinical associate professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on July 31, 2018.

Dr. Casher received his B.A. (1972) degree from The Johns Hopkins University and his M.D. (1976) degree from the University of Michigan. He completed his internship (1976-77) at the University of Colorado. Dr. Casher completed his psychiatry residency (1978-81) and served as chief resident in the Department of Psychiatry (1980-81) at the University of Michigan. He held a number of appointments in the University of Michigan’s Department of Psychiatry, including adjunct clinical instructor, clinical instructor, clinical assistant professor, and clinical associate professor. He also held adjunct clinical instructor and lecturer positions in the Department of Psychology.

Dr. Casher was appointed director of the University of Michigan’s Psychiatry Adult Inpatient Program in 2007. His training and experiences in psychotherapy had an enduring influence on his approach to clinical work and teaching. During Dr. Casher’s five years as medical director of inpatient psychiatry at UM, the unit achieved a ranking as one of the top units in the country. He became a true academic clinician-educator and enjoyed the opportunity to train residents. Dr. Casher published a number of notable peer-reviewed articles in the leading psychiatric journals. He co-authored, with Joshua D. Bess, the well-received book titled Manual of Inpatient Psychiatric Treatment that was published by Cambridge University Press in 2010. The copyright for this manual has been purchased by Turkish and Polish publishers and an updated second edition is currently in progress. Dr. Casher has also written two chapters on psychiatric teaching, one as a co-author in a book edited by Dr. Laura Roberts of Stanford University, and another as a solo author. His scholarly contributions related primarily to inpatient psychiatric practice and reflect his interests in clinical psychopharmacology, insight into psychiatry, the psychiatric hospitalist movement, chronotherapy in depression, and the application of object relations theory to inpatient practice. He received the Teacher of the Year Award from the University’s honorary medical student organization Alpha Omega Alpha (2004) and two Teacher of the Year Awards from the Department of Psychiatry (2011 and 2015).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Michael I. Casher, clinical associate professor emeritus of psychiatry.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

July 2018